Mr. C A. Kunjunni Raja.—Then part(b). Has the Diwan Peishkar submitted any report to the Government about the failure of the crops ?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar—I think the answer (b) in a way indicates that a report was submitted.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—It has to be made clear.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—A report has been submitted. The Government are unable to do so at this stage.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know why it is not possible to do it now ?

Rao Sahib T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—It is not possible to consider it now, since final orders have already been passed. No public interest will now be served. It is a confidential document.

The registration of new fishing stakes.

77. Mr. I. E. Ambooken.— Will the Government be pleased to state whether the registration of new fishing stakes is allowed without selling the right of occupancy in public auction, as mentioned in *the Land Revenue Manual* section, 220 (2)? If so, what reasons have necessitated the taking of such a step ?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.— Fishing stakes sites are, as a rule, assigned after sale in public auction. In rare cases, where there is no competition, and where an auction is not possible, the stakes are assigned in the names of the applicants after realising reasonable site value.

78. Mr. I. E. Ambooken.— Will the Government be pleased to state whether they keep any rule as to the width of the locality in the backwater in which the fishing stakes are newly registered ? If so, what is it ? Has the Government ever come to know that the public are put to difficulties by having obstruction for their traffic in the backwaters by putting fishing stakes in places where there is only a small width ?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar .— The rule regarding the planting of fishing stakes is as follows:—

No new stakes shall be allowed to be planted in the main channel within a distance of 3 chains from either side of the shores of the backwater. In the case of narrow canals, the Tahsildar of the Taluk will determine the distance.

The Government are not aware of any difficulties experienced by reason of the planting of the stakes in narrow channels.

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